

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-20 (Cancelled)

21. (New) A heating and air-conditioning system for a motor vehicle having front and rear internal vehicle compartments, comprising:

- (a) a conditioning housing;
- (b) a first heat exchanger operably integrated within said conditioning housing;
- (c) a plurality of air outlet openings in said conditioning housing for guiding air to front interior zones of a motor vehicle;
- (d) a connecting section on the outside of said conditioning housing;
- (e) an air outlet opening through said connecting section, said air outlet opening being in parallel air flow relationship with said first heat exchanger;
- (f) an additional member selectively mounted over said air outlet opening through said connecting section, said additional member being selected from the group consisting of
  - (i) a releasable cover for covering, in a tight, leak-proof manner, said air outlet opening through said connecting section; and
  - (ii) a rear vehicle compartment temperature control unit attached in a tight, leak-proof manner to said connecting section and in fluid communication with said conditioning housing via said air outlet opening through said connecting section, said rear temperature control unit comprising an additional housing having a second heat exchanger operably integrated therein; and

(g) connecting structure, associated with at least said connecting portion of said conditioning housing, for selectively and alternately attaching each of said additional members (i) and (ii) to said connecting section.

22. (New) A heating and air-conditioning system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the motor vehicle further comprises rear interior zones.

23. (New) A heating and air-conditioning system as claimed in claim 21, wherein said rear temperature control unit comprises an air guiding arrangement leading from said conditioning housing to said rear interior zones.

24. (New) A heating and air-conditioning system as claimed in claim 21, wherein said additional housing comprises at least one air control element.

25. (New) A heating and air-conditioning system as claimed in claim 21, further comprising a partition separating said first heat exchanger into a left portion and a right portion.

26. (New) A heating and air-conditioning system as claimed in claim 21, further comprising a partition separating at least one of said first and second heat exchangers into respective left and right portions.

27. (New) A heating and air-conditioning system as claimed in claim 21, wherein a said connecting structure associated with said connecting section for attaching said rear temperature control unit defines an area on said connecting section that is substantially larger than said air outlet opening.

28. (New) A heating and air-conditioning system as claimed in claim 27, wherein said additional housing comprises an open housing section capable of tight, leak-proof attachment to said connecting section of said conditioning housing.

29. (New) A heating and air-conditioning system as claimed in claim 21, wherein said connecting structure comprises flange members that are associated both with said connection section and with said rear temperature control unit and that correspond to each

other and are capable of fitting together to connect said connecting section and said rear temperature control unit.

30. (New) A heating and air-conditioning system as claimed in claim 21, further comprising a plurality of electrically activated positive temperature coefficient elements integrated in said first heat exchanger for water side temperature regulation.

31. (New) A heating and air-conditioning system as claimed in claim 21, further comprising air flaps for regulating the flow of air through said first heat exchanger.

32. (New) A heating and air-conditioning system as claimed in claim 21, wherein said connecting structure comprises profiled flange arrangements on said connecting section for selectively and alternately cooperating with mating arrangements on said removable cover and on said rear temperature control unit.

33. (New) A motor vehicle comprising a heating and air-conditioning system which comprises:

- (a) a conditioning housing;
- (b) a first heat exchanger operably integrated within said conditioning housing;
- (c) a plurality of air outlet openings in said conditioning housing for guiding air to front interior zones of a motor vehicle;
- (d) a connecting section on the outside of said conditioning housing;
- (e) an air outlet opening through said connecting section, said air outlet opening being in parallel air flow relationship with said first heat exchanger;
- (f) an additional member selectively mounted over said air outlet opening through said connecting section, said additional member being selected from the group consisting of

(i) a releasable cover for covering, in a tight, leak-proof manner, said air outlet opening through said connecting section; and

(ii) a rear vehicle compartment temperature control unit attached in a tight, leak-proof manner to said connecting section and in fluid communication with said conditioning housing via said air outlet opening through said connecting section, said rear temperature control unit comprising an additional housing having a second heat exchanger operably integrated therein; and

(g) connecting structure, associated with at least said connecting portion of said conditioning housing, for selectively and alternately attaching each of said additional members (i) and (ii) to said connecting section.

34. (New) A conditioning housing for a heating and air-conditioning system that can be adapted to produce either a two-zone, three-zone or four zone system, comprising:

(a) a heat exchanger operably integrated within said conditioning housing;

(b) a connecting section on the outside of said conditioning housing;

(c) an air outlet opening through said connecting section, said air outlet opening being in parallel air flow relationship with said first heat exchanger; and ~~either~~

(d) connecting structure, associated with at least said connecting portion of said conditioning housing, for selectively and alternately attaching to said connecting section an additional member to be selectively mounted over said air outlet opening through said connecting section, said additional member being selected from the group consisting of

(i) a releasable cover for covering, in a tight, leak-proof manner, said air outlet opening through said connecting section; and

(ii) a rear vehicle compartment temperature control unit attached in a tight, leak-proof manner to said connecting section and in fluid communication with said conditioning housing via said air outlet opening through said connecting section, said rear temperature control unit

comprising an additional housing having a second heat exchanger operably integrated therein.

35. (New) A conditioning housing according to claim 21, wherein said connecting structure includes an arrangement selected from the group consisting of at least one of a bonding arrangement, a frictional arrangement or an interlocking arrangement.

36. (New) A conditioning housing according to claim 34, wherein said connecting structure includes an arrangement selected from the group consisting of at least one of a bonding arrangement, a frictional arrangement or an interlocking arrangement.